



From left, Joe Barroso, 1st Lt. Matthew Wylie, Tommy Lawson, John Moore, David and Jackie Ringley gather under a pecan tree to play bluegrass music April 15.



Above, Jackie Ringley holds a banjo he custom made himself. The electrical engineer has been playing for 30 years, and he is in the process of building four banjos for his children as heirlooms.

Bluegrass Jamboree

Robins employees take advantage of spring weather for lunch time rejuvenation

U.S. Air Force story and photos by
Sue Sapp

If the weather is nice, chances are you will hear the sounds of bluegrass music coming from under a huge pecan tree on Perry Street.

Around noon on those days, several members of the Robins community step away from their desks and spend their lunch breaks with banjos, guitars, mandolins and fiddles.

Jackie Ringley, an electrical engineer in the Electronic Warfare Management Directorate, is usually joined by his sons, David, an electrical engineer in the Support Equipment and Vehicle Management Directorate, and Jonathan, a contract electrical engineer with Northrop Grumman.

"It's my hobby," the elder Ringley said. "It's a fantastic break from work. We're too busy having fun to think or talk about work, so it invigorates you so you can go back and do your job."

The Ringleys not only play several instruments, but David and Jonathan also add vocals to the mix.

1st Lt. Matthew Wylie, a C-5 program manager, joined the group after he arrived here in July 2001. Wylie, who also plays several instruments, decided to expand his talents and started playing the fiddle last November.

"It's fun," he said. "It beats watching TV."

Ringley said anyone who plays, or just wants to tap their feet, can come by and join them.



Above, 1st Lt. Matthew Wylie recently taught himself to play the fiddle. He also plays the saxophone, piano, guitar and mandolin. Left, John Moore, foreground, plays the slide guitar while David Ringley sings and plays guitar.



To see this story in streaming video, go to <http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/stream/index.htm>

In search of a good night's rest

■ Pillowcase program helps military members stay near when they are far from home

By Holly J. Logan
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

Emily and Zachary Baty sleep easier at night knowing their father is as close as their cheek - even though he is deployed half a world away.

Thanks to the Pillowcase Program at the Family Support Center, Robins' deployed military members' loved ones have been receiving personalized pillowcases since the program's inception in the summer of 2001.

When Emily, 6, and Zachary, 4, were younger, they had no concept of the time when their father, a staff sergeant with the 5th Combat Communications Squadron, was gone, but now it's a challenge.

"It's been hard," said Shelley Baty, the children's mother. "They draw him pictures, and we mail them to him. The pillowcases have helped a lot. It's comforting for them to have his face here."

Tech. Sgt. Caroline Newell, FSC family readiness coordinator, said the program has provided pillowcases for more than 100 people, and a way to say "I love you" from a distance.

Newell said the program has proven most benefi-



What to know:

For more information on the Pillowcase Program, contact Tech. Sgt. Caroline Newell at 926-1256, or obtain an application at the Family Support Center in Building 794 on 9th Street.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Tech. Sgt. Caroline Newell, FSC Family Readiness coordinator, uses a heat press to iron on transfers to personalize a pillowcase for a deployed member's family.

cial for children, helping them feel that their parents are only a dream away.

Although some people may think the program is only for families, Newell said it has a far greater reach, providing a communication link between loves ones and any service member who is deployed, on temporary duty or remote assignment. Designs for the pillowcases are not limited to pictures of the military member and loves ones; other options are available upon request.

Pillowcases are provided free of charge through the FSC, with no limit as long as the center staff is able to meet the demand, Newell said.

DEPLOYED SPOUSES' RESOURCES



Family matters:

Deployed spouses Q & A

Q:My son keeps asking "where is my mommy?" How can I answer my child in a manner he can understand?

A:Find a map or globe.

•Mark the area where you live.

•Draw a line to show the path where the absent parent is going to be from the beginning to the end. Use symbols — airplane, boat etc. — to show how the parent will be traveling.

•Find out how many miles there are between home and the TDY. Are they going to stop any where? Is there a time difference?

•Find out interesting things about the country, what kind of food they eat, what the weather is like, etc.

Q:My daughter is withdrawn and quiet since her dad deployed. Do I just let her come around in her own time?

A:Encourage her to talk about her feelings.

•Link your child with other children who have parents deployed.

•Let her school, church or other organizations know how your child may be feeling.

•Make plans/outings for your children to get together with their friends.

•Explain to the child why Daddy/Mommy had to leave.

Q:I had my baby while my husband was TDY. How can we make a smooth adjustment as a family when he returns?

A:Make plans for quiet time together as a family. The first few days of his return can be overwhelming if there are a lot of other people around.

•Take things slow and easy, don't expect things to be perfect.

•Be patient and encourage Dad in

his new role.

Q:What resources are available to parents and children of deployed members who may be seeking help or information about their concerns?

A:First of all we let them know that asking for help shows that they are willing to take action to solve a problem.

•The Family Advocacy Program offers many types of practical and emotional support to families. If they are in the New Parent Support Program, we have a Mom's Support Group for mothers of children age 3 and younger. We can also provide counseling and refer to other helping agencies.

•Spouses' Clubs can offer unique insights and support for families of deployed military members.

•Talk to the Chapel regarding activities you and your family may wish to attend.

Q:How does one handle a child's regressive behavior when the active duty parent leaves for a TDY?

A:Have a family meeting prior to deployed member departing to plan an alternative family routine.

•Reassure children they are safe, and they can count on you to be there for them.

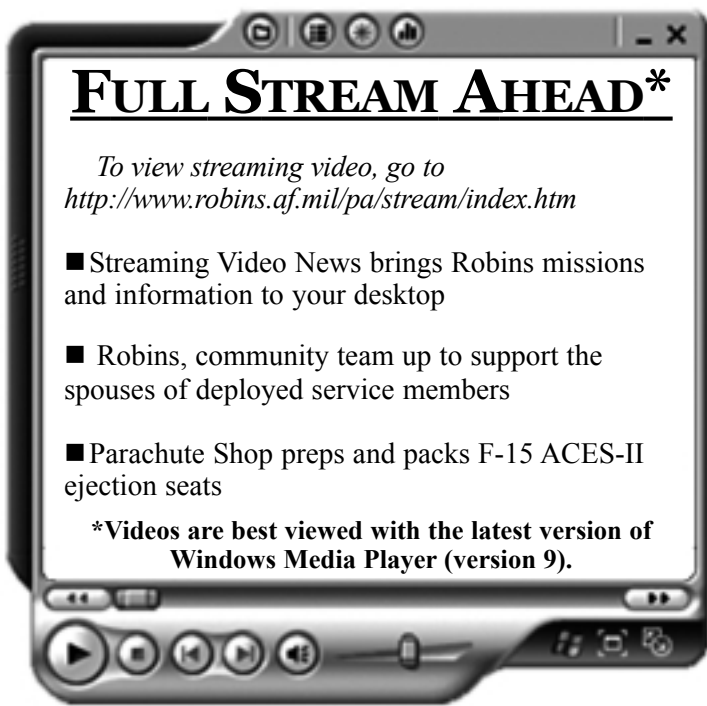
•Create a calendar for the child to mark off the days until the deployed parent returns.

•As a family, make a scrapbook of special occasions such as holidays, school events, birthdays, etc.

•Communication is the key to a smooth transition for the child. Discussing the deployment helps lessen any fears a child may have.

— From the Robins Family Advocacy office

STREAMING VIDEO



MOVIE SCHEDULE



Today
7:30 p.m. – DAREDEVIL - Ben Affleck, Michael Clarke Duncan

Daredevil tells the story of Matt Murdock, the son of a boxer who gets killed by petty criminals for refusing to take a dive. This drives young Matt to fight crime, despite a childhood accident that robbed him of his sight. Rated PG-13 (action violence and some sexuality) 102 minutes

Saturday
7:30 p.m. – THE HUNTED - Tommy Lee Jones, Benicio del Toro

Tommy Lee Jones is a FBI deep-woods tracker who captures an assassin who makes sport of killing deer hunters. When the killer escapes in the city, he must team with another agent to hunt down the killer before he starts to hunt them. Rated R (strong bloody violence and some language) 94 minutes



ROBINS REPORT

News from around base — Watson and Cox Channel 15

Friday – 8 p.m.

Sunday – 1:30 p.m.

Monday – Noon

'Centennial of Flight' Tattoo ceremony is May 20

Come be a part of the 2003 Robins Tattoo Ceremony May 20 at 8:30 p.m. Gen. Lester Lyles, AFMC Commander, will be the honoree. It will be held at the Museum of Aviation. We are looking for eager volunteers to be actors, spotlight operators, stagehands and other logistical positions. If you would like to become involved in the ceremony in any way, contact Lt. Michael J. Miller at 327-7333 or by e-mail at Michael.Miller2@robins.af.mil .

VFW Post 6605 Military Family Day Saturday

VFW Memorial Post 6605 at 1011 Corder Rd. in Warner Robins is planning a Military Family Appreciation Day Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. for all active, guard, reserve and retired military families. Spouses and families of those deployed are encouraged to attend.

This event is to show our support for the military and their families.

Maximum showing of the flag and patriotic logos is permissible and encouraged during this event. In case of rain the event will be held in Post hall.

The Post will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, soft drinks and any items donated for this worthwhile event. We are planning on a full range of events for the families; especially for the kids. Canteen will be open for adult beverages. We anticipate an egg toss, cake walk, wheelbarrow race and a three-legged race just to name a few of the activities. We anticipate prizes for all who participate.

Sandy Solari of Power Pole Productions (P3) and the Ladies Auxillary of the VFW will provide karaoke during the event. Al Trice, the founder of "Shagdaddy's Dance Club" (held at the VFW the first and third Friday nights of each month) will also provide entertainment for your dancing/listening pleasure. Come and relax for the day and let your VFW show how much you are appreciated.

Any organization or merchant desiring to donate items or time to this effort can call the Post Home at 922-2154 and leave your name and phone number for Merle to contact you.

Volunteer Houston County serves county

Volunteer Houston County's mission is to mobilize people and resources to deliver solutions to community problems. Through the organization's commitment to serving county families, it plays major roles in the community's collaboration for families and children. Service is a major part of community problem-solving initiatives in education, family services, public safety and environment. Volunteer Houston County reflects the community's diversity in the organization.

For more information, visit www.vhc-cishc.org. There are many service opportunities available.

SERVICES BRIEFS

Robins Air Force Base personnel may receive a PRISM VI survey through the mail. If you receive one, complete it and mail it back promptly. Data from the survey is used to improve Services facilities and programs for Air Force families and DoD civilians. If you have questions, call Linda Hinkle, marketing director, at 926-6662.

Child Development Center 926-3080, CDC West; 926-5805, CDC East

The Child Development Centers will be hosting Parent luncheons in recognition of Month of the Young Child, Tuesday through Wednesday. Lunches for infants and toddlers will be held at 11 a.m. and toddlers and preschoolers will be at 11:30 a.m.

Civilian Recreation 922-4415

Canned goods and non-perishable food items are being collected through April 26 to be distributed to local food pantries. Collection boxes are located in Services facilities and the Commissary.

For more information call Lynne Brackett at 922-4415

Enlisted Club 926-4515

Easter brunch will be held Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. An Easter egg hunt will be held, and children may have their photos taken with the Easter bunny.

Family Swimming 926-4001

The indoor fitness center pool is open Saturdays and Sundays from 1 - 4 p.m. for family swimming. The pool is closed the first and third Sunday of each month.

Information, Tickets and Travel 926-2945

A fashion show luncheon will be held in the Smith Community Center ballroom April 24 at 11 a.m. Tickets are on sale at ITT and at the Pine Oaks Golf Course for \$7 until April 22. For details call Lynne Brackett at 922-4415 or Tammy Nolan at 926-2945.

Officer's Club 926-2670

Enjoy Easter Brunch Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation Center 926-4001

•Register by Wednesday for the trip to Savannah, Ga., scheduled for April 26. Cost is \$25 per person and includes transportation and sight seeing.

•The Vehicle Sales Lot has been moved to a new location adjacent to Bldg. 641 on Oak Street. Registration for selling a vehicle is conducted at Outdoor Recreation, Bldg. 914. The cost is \$10 for 15 days or \$20 per month.

Smith Community Center 926-2105

Join the community center April 26 to perform minor maintenance, paint and landscape at a local non-profit organization in recognition of Give the World a Hand day. Volunteers can call Cheryl Dollard for more information.



Submitted photo

Identical twins Keisha and Kellie Ramdhanie can be seen on ‘Showtime in Harlem’ April 26.

Singing sisters to appear on ‘Showtime in Harlem’

N-hanz, a local R&B/pop group, will perform on “Showtime in Harlem” April 26 at 7 p.m. on Fox channel 2 (channel 24 Macon). Twins Keisha and Kellie Ramdhanie, juniors at Warner Robins High School, make up the act that recently performed at the Cherry Blossom Festival in Macon. They are the daughters of Master Sgt. Randolph and Justina Ramdhanie. N-hanz’s next performance will be at the 6th Annual Pan American Festival at Central City Park in Macon, April 26 at 5:30 p.m. For more information, go to N-hanz’s Web site at [http:// www.nhanz3.homestead.com](http://www.nhanz3.homestead.com).

— *From staff reports*

Multi-cultural luncheon set for April 24

The 2nd annual Multi-Cultural Luncheon will be held April 24 at 11:30 a.m. at the Enlisted Club. This year’s theme is “Embracing the Diversity of Our Young People: The Fruits of Our Past and the Hopes of Our Future.” The Northside High School drama club will present the play “The Boy Friend,” and Greg Miller and Otis James will provide musical entertainment. There will be a lunch buffet that includes wings, stir-fry rice, egg rolls, Swedish meatballs, spaghetti, salad and rolls. Tickets are \$9. For more information, contact Katie Largent at 926-6122, Penelope Rodgers at 926-5950, or Deborah Weeks at 926-2386.

— *From staff reports*

Kindergarten and preschool registration set for April 30

Kindergarten and pre-school registration will be held April 30 at Robins Elementary from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Parents of children who will be attending kindergarten and the half-day program for 4-year-olds during the 2003-2004 school year should plan to attend. Kindergarten students must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2003. Preschool students must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2003. Children attending Robins Air Force Base School must reside on federal property in permanent military family housing. For both registrations, parents should bring (1) child's birth certificate, (2) certificate of immunization from the base hospital or local health department, Georgia Department of Human Resources Form 3231 (not the yellow shot record), and (3) certificate of ear, eye and dental examination from the base hospital.

— *From staff reports*

Ocmulgee
5709180156975403

Canine
5709180156975403

Lane
5706120156937901

Rex
56937901

JSTARS members' sons place in state wrestling tourney

By Airman 1st Class Tim Beckham
116th Air Control Wing Public Affairs

Two area champions took to the mat March 22-23, when they competed in the Georgia Kids State Championship Wrestling Tournament and placed third and fifth in their divisions.

Daniel Douglass and Travis Boyd both placed in the state tournament, sponsored by Team Georgia — a nonprofit, state-level official representative of USA Wrestling. The boys qualified for



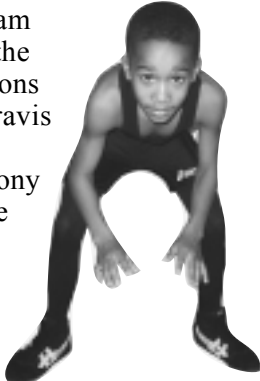
Daniel Douglass

the tournament by finishing first at the South Georgia Area Championship.

Daniel is the son of Lt. Col. William Douglass, of the 116th Operations Group, and Travis is the son of Master Sgt. Tony Boyd from the 116th Maintenance Squadron.

Tony Boyd said both wrestlers completely dominated their weight class at the area tournament.

“Travis pinned all three of his opponents to capture his fourth area championship and Daniel won his first area title by ripping through



Travis Boyd



Submitted photo

Travis Boyd, right, controls Aaron Drew of Coffee County during the Georgia Kids State Championship Wrestling Tournament. Boyd won third place.

the competition by quickly pinning all three of his opponents for the gold medal,” said Boyd.

Both boys performed well at the Georgia Kids State Championship Tournament, according to Boyd.

“Daniel, in his first year of competition, wrestled in the extremely tough 12-years-old and under, 95-pound weight class. He won three

matches including two first period pins and finished in fifth place,” said Boyd.

“Travis, a four-time state placer and four-time area champion, competed in the 10-years-old and under, 60-pound weight class,” he said. “He won four matches to capture third place and a bronze medal.”

Rev Up

Submit sports information to Angela Trunzo in the WR-ALC Public Affairs office, Bldg. 215, Room 106. Submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday for consideration for Friday's paper. Submit stories and stats in person or by e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil. For more information, call 926-2137.

GA theater
56984201

SPORTS BRIEFS

Fitness Center 926-2128

- Contractors have reseeded the football field located inside the base running track across from the base fitness center. In order for the bermuda grass to grow, the field will remain closed until May 5. If you have any questions, contact Kenny Porter, 78th MSG/SVMP, at 926-2128.
- Letters of Intent for intramural softball can be picked up at the Fitness Center. The deadline to submit letters is April 25. For more information, contact Grady Martin or Staff Sgt. Bryant at the Fitness Center.
- The Fitness Center will host an Family-Fun Easter Egg Hunt 5K Run and Walk Saturday at 9 a.m. Participants will collect Easter eggs filled with goodies during the event. Sponsored in part by the Atlanta Bread Company. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended.



U.S. Air Force photo by Gary Cutrell

Happy birthday

From left, Buck Melton, retired Brig. Gen. Robert L. Scott, Scott Fraser (Scott's grandson) and Chaplain (Capt.) Shannon Philio participate in a golf tournament celebrating Scott's 95th birthday at Barrington Hall Golf Club April 11.

Golf Course 926-4103

- During April golfers will save money if they pay their annual green fees in advance. Yearly rates are as follows: E1 - E4, \$225; E5 - O3, \$348; O4 - up and DoD civilians, \$432.
- Morning and evening Link Up 2 Golf classes will be held throughout April and May for \$99 per person. The Link Up 2 Golf curriculum, designed and sponsored by PGA of America, is the most comprehensive lesson series ever created. For more information and class hours, call

926-4103. No federal endorsement of sponsor intended.

Robins Lanes 926-2112

- Celebrate National Turn Off Your TV Week April 20 - 26 at Robins Lanes. The entire family can play for \$5 per person that includes three games of bowling and shoes during open play. Participants can enter a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to purchase books.
- Every Wednesday in April, immediate family members of deployed troops can bowl for \$1 a game during open play.
- Be the sole survivor and win. Bowl a three game 9-pin no tap set for \$6 per week for six weeks. At the end of each of each week the lowest score will be voted out. After six weeks, the last survivor takes all the winnings. A new round begins every six weeks.

Cisco's
57070601

Mossy
56907101

SCORE BOARD

I.M. volleyball standings as of April 4

Team (won/lost)
116th MXS 6/1
116th CSS 5/2
78th SFS #1 5/2
78th MDG 4/3
78th CEG 4/3
78th SFS #2 2/5

653rd CLSS 1/6
78th MSG forfeit elimination

I.M. basketball standing as of March 23

Team (won/lost)
78th SFS #1 10/0
116th #1 9/3
78th CE 9/2
116th #2 8/3

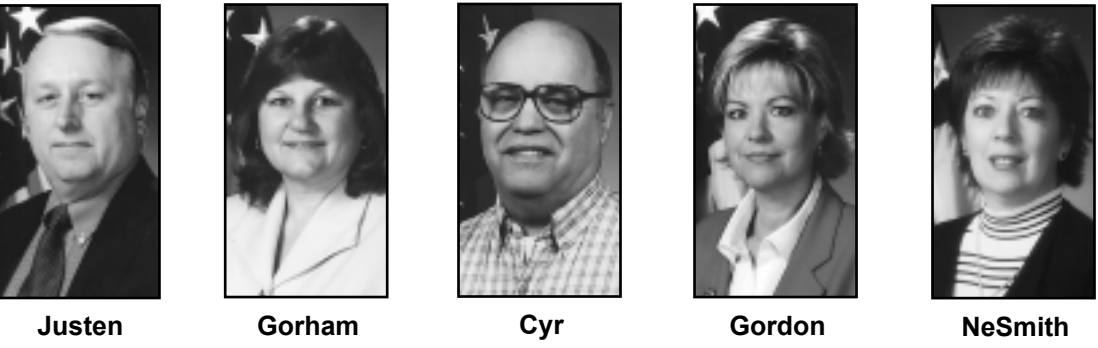
78th MSS 8/3
78th CS 7/4
78th SFS #2 6/5
116th MXS 5/5
5th MOBB 4/4
19th ARG #1 3/6
116th AGS 3/7
116th CSS 3/9
53rd CBCS 3/11

Aunt
57078901

Roly
57078001

Hi-energy
57089801

HONOR ROLL



Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Management Directorate
2002 fourth quarter winners:
Steven Justen - Civilian of the Quarter (GS-8 and above)

Janice T. Gorham - Civilian of the Quarter (GS-7 and below)

Victor N. Cyr - Supervisor of the Quarter
Senior Master Sgt. Anthony T. Conrad (no photo)

Kim Gordon - Contractor of the Quarter
2003 first quarter winners:

Beverly A. Cartwright - Civilian of the Quarter (GS-8 and above) (no photo)

B.J. NeSmith - Civilian of the Quarter (GS-7 and below)

Stephen L. Albritton - Supervisor of the Quarter
1st Lt. Carmen M. Knecht - CGO of the Quarter

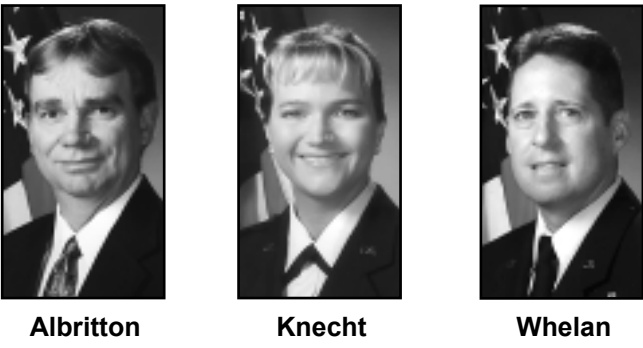
Senior Master Sgt. Colin J. Whelan - SNCO of the Quarter
Lance A. Williams (no photo) - Contractor of the Quarter

Master Sgt. Richard Putnam of the 202nd Engineering Installation Squadron has been selected as the Engineering Installation “Engineer of the Year” for 2003. The award is given annually to the top engineer or technician selected from all EI Squadrons worldwide.

Putnam is assigned to the 778th Civil Engineering Squadron as a civilian employee at Robins.

Master Sgt. Anthony L. Davis of the 202nd Engineering Installation Squadron recently received the Georgia Air National Guard Outstanding Airman of the Year award.

Davis is a program manager in the WR-ALC/LUN.



Sun
57089101

Morgan
56971901

Submit **honor roll** information to Angela Trunzo in the WR-ALC Public Affairs office, Bldg. 215, Room 106, by e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil or by fax at 926-9597. Submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday for consideration for Friday's paper. For more information, call 926-2137.



Colonial
57048501